LISTING OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-6 (Canceled).

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 22, wherein:

said network includes the Internet;

said data updating step, said data backing-up step, and said retrieving step are

performed by a WWW (World Wide Web) server supplying a Web page via said Internet;

and

said update data include an index file describing a link to another Web page.

8. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 7, further comprising

forming said index file in the form of an HTML (Hyper Text Markup Language) file.

9. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 8, further comprising

linking an image file to said HTML file as part of the update data.

10. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 8, further comprising

linking an audio file to said HTML file as part of the update data.

11. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 8, further comprising

linking a program file linked to said HTML file.

12. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 17, wherein the updating

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step is performed automatically at a predetermined time of each day as the at least a specified

update time, a retrieval file name having added data representing an updating time coincident

with the current time is retrieved from said retrieval storage area, and update data having the

retrieval file name found is written into said open storage area in an overwriting fashion.

13. (Previously Presented): A storage medium on which an information supplying

program is stored, said information supplying program comprising:

a data updating step in which data stored in an open storage area allowed to be freely

accessed via a network is replaced with update data at a specified time;

a data backing-up step in which a retrieval file name is produced by adding data,

which represents a date and time when the updating step is to be performed, to a file name of

said update data, said retrieval file name is included with backup data produced from said

update data to form a backup retrieval file, and said backup retrieval file is saved in a

retrieval storage area; and

a retrieving step in which the backup retrieval file having the retrieval file name

corresponding to an updating time specified via said network is retrieved from said retrieval

storage area, and retrieved backup retrieval file data is transferred via said network to a client

which has requested said retrieved backup retrieval file data.

14. (Currently Amended): The storage medium according to Claim 13, said

information supplying program further comprising an automatic updating step in which at a

predetermined time of each day, a backup retrieval file having a retrieval file name having

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added data representing an updating time coincident with the current time is retrieved from

said retrieval storage area, and retrieved update data from the backup retrieval file having the

retrieval file name found is overwritten into said open storage area as said update data in said

updating step.

15. (Currently Amended): An information supplying apparatus, comprising:

a data updating ~~apparatus for replacing~~ component configured to replace data stored

in an open storage area, which is allowed to be freely accessed via a network, with update

data at a specified time;

a data backing-up apparatus ~~for producing~~ component configured to produce a

retrieval file name by adding data, which represents a date and time when updating is to be

performed, to a file name of said update data, assigning said retrieval file name to the backup

data produced from said update data to form a backup retrieval file, and saving said backup

retrieval file in a retrieval storage area; and

a retrieving ~~apparatus for searching~~ component configured to search said retrieval

storage area for the backup retrieval file having the retrieval file name corresponding to an

updating time specified via said network and transferring ~~the~~ retrieved backup retrieval file

data via said network to a client which has requested said retrieved backup retrieval file data.

16. (Currently amended): The information supplying apparatus~~,~~ according to Claim

15, further comprising an automatic updating ~~apparatus for~~ component configured to, at a

predetermined time of each day, ~~retrieving~~ retrieve a backup retrieval file having the

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retrieval file name having added data representing an updating time coincident with the

current time from said retrieval storage area, and writing replacing the data stored in the open

storage area by overwriting the data stored in the open storage area with update data having

the retrieval file name found into said open storage area.

17. (Previously Presented) A method of storing and retrieving data, comprising the

steps of:

specifying update data to update current data in a data file stored in an open storage

area freely accessed via a network using an associated file name;

specifying update conditions including at least a specified update time of day for

updating the current data with the update data;

performing the updating of the current data with the update data in accordance with

the specified update condition;

modifying the accessible file name to include an indication of the specified update

conditions to form a retrieval file name;

combining the retrieval file name with at least the update data to form a back-up

retrieval file; and

saving the back-up retrieval file in a retrieval storage area.

18. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 17, further comprising the

step of limiting access to said retrieval storage area via said network.

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19. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 18, further comprising the step of forming the open storage area and the retrieval storage area in different directories of the same storage device.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 18, further comprising limiting the update data to only portions of the current data that have changed.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 20, wherein the saving the back-up retrieval file step includes saving only the portions of the current data that have changed as the update data added to the retrieval file name.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 18, further comprising:

comparing a client request to the specified update conditions in the stored retrieval file names of the back-up retrieval files saved in the retrieval storage area to determine the back-up retrieval file to be retrieved; and

retrieving the back-up retrieval file indicated by the client request.